

The specimens in our Museum, I selected from the large collection made by the Rev. George Brown and Mr. Cockerell, in New Ireland, and the adjacent Islands.

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Description of a new species of *Pachycephala* from the Gulf of Carpentaria.

By E. P. RAMSAY, F.L.S., &c., &c.

*PACHYCEPHALA PALLIDA*, *sp. nov.*

*Adult male*.—All the upper surface dull slate-grey, lighter on the upper tail-coverts, and base of the outer webs of the tail feathers; the wings and tail feathers blackish brown, margined with ashy white, a little broader on the secondaries and upper wing-coverts, the feathers of the crown of the head and forehead with a narrow line of a blackish brown down the centre; throat to the chest white; lower portion of the ear-coverts a line down the side of the neck, joining a narrow band of the same color across the chest, black; remainder of the under surface white, faintly tinged with light cream color.

The female is the same in plumage above, as the male, with a faint tinge of olive; under surface white, washed with a light creamy tint on the breast and sides; all the throat, sides of the face from the angle of the mouth, the chest, breast and flanks, strongly striated down the centre of the feathers with blackish brown, under tail-coverts white with a narrow line of brown down the centre of each feather. Both sexes are of the same dimensions. Total length 5·5 inches; wing, 3·5 inches; tail, 2·8 inches; tarsus, 0·8 inch; bill, from forehead, 0·5 inch; from nostrils, 0·35 inch; from gape, 0·7 inch.

This species is undoubtedly closely allied to *P. falcata* of Gould; it is, however, slightly smaller, and wants the rufous under surface of that species, and may at once be distinguished from it by having the *pectoral band extending upwards to the base of, and joined to, the ear-coverts*, which Mr. Gould distinctly states is not the case in his *P. falcata*.

*Habitat*. Gulf of Carpentaria and Southward to George Town.